Fr. Wrangham 1816.

A NEWE BOOKE
OF COPIES,

CONTAINING DIVERS

sortes of sundry hands, as the English and French secretarie, and Bastard secretarie, Italian, Roman, Chancery, and Court hands.

Set forth by the most Excellent Writers of the sayd hands for the instruction of the vnskilfull.

CVM PRIVILEGIO.

1620

+57-153

To the most Excellent Prince Charles &c:

Most Gratious Prince

The humble worke of my hand & labour, with my harte: long, first devoted to ye Highnes Gration: Regard, and now wth an Addition for a publig good, wth ye favourable Patronage, putt forth into the world: I humble present to ye Princes y patience. Beseeching the Reigne of all perfection, so to blesse ye Highnes in all perfections, as may give just cause to y vertuous in all Professions, to admire ye Excellence, with a love and service: and make my harmlesnes, under heaven, to be a servaunt, to so gratious Maister.

Your Highnes, &c

in all humblenes:

Martin Billingsley.

2

2

The Preface to the Reader.

IT is an opinion amongst some, not so erroneous as ignorant, that Coppy-Bookes of this nature are of no validitie. What reason they can alledge to strengthen so fond a conceit, I know not; sure it is some priuate one, they are so loath to produce it. For mine owne part, I see no reason why these that are graven should not be as profitable to a Learner, as those that are meerly written: so they be exactly performed according to the natural straine of a true Artist; each Letter being cut according to its true proportion, and losing not the life deliuered in the Example.

Certaine I am, there is no man liuing can write so exactly, but that euen in the writing of sixe lines, he himselfe shall be conscious to himselfe of some imperfections: which, by directions to the Grauer (being a good Worke-man and carefull) may be easily helped and made perfect for imitation. Howbeit I deny not, but that oftentimes the Grauer may wrong the Writer, if he be not very obseruant in euery touch of a Letter: and the amends which he may make him, in the well cutting of some one or two hands, will not counteruaile the credit which he shall lose by his ill grauing and vnnaturall mishaping of some few Letters in one very Example.

For this Booke ensuing, I know there are some (through an enuious Curiositie, rather then a true Iudgement) which will herein finde many infirmities: yet let me tell them, it is an easier matter to pry into the imperfections of another, then it is to amend their owne errours: and he that finds the greatest faults, commonly is the vnablest to amend the least; since Art hath no greater enemy then Ignorance. This is my glory; That I haue not plaid the Theefe with any man, (though it were in my power to haue done it. But quicquid scripsi, scripsi: *whatsoeuer I haue written, I haue done it my selfe: For I would be much ashamed, that any man should thinke, I had beene brought vp in a place of such scarsitie, and vnder so bad a Master, or that there were in me such a pouertie, that I must needs goe a thieuing for my skill. I thanke God there is nothing in it, which I am not able vpon an instant to better. And therefore if any man list to be contentious, let him be contentious; but let him not wrong him in his doings, who is able to*

doe

doe then better himselfe: I speake of those that thinke themselues excellent and past compare, who indeed (be their names neuer so famous) beare about them but the shadow of Art. And howsoeuer the spirits of such men are so eleuated and raised euen beyond themselues, that they thinke basely of euery mans doings but their owne; though their consciences tell them they are but as emptie vessels, which alwayes make the greatest sound. It shall suffice me, that (I) know what they haue in them, and how far their skill extendeth; and so rest my selfe contented, till Time and Truth (the Tryers of all mens actions) shall distribute to euery one according to his desert. In the meane time, as this little Booke hath found gracious acceptation at the hands of him to whom it was first priuately intended: So I hope it will haue the approbation of all such as are well disposed, and beare affection to so excellent, commendable, and necessary an Art: assuring them, that had I had my right, I should haue giuen them better content, and greater satisfaction of the Pens *perfection: As for Carpers and ouer-curious-ey'd men, I passe not, as knowing my selfe euery way (in the Art I professe) a Worke-man that needeth not to be ashamed.*

From my house in Bush-lane neare
London-stone, *Decemb.* 22. 1618.

M. B.

The Pens Excellency.

THe Profession of the *Pen* at this day being so vniuersall, and the Professors themselues for the most part so ignorant, and insufficient to vndertake so worthy a function; together with the desire I haue (according to my small talent) to benefit such as are, or would be Practitioners in that commendable Art of FAIRE WRITING; were the onely moiues that induced mee to manifest vnto the view of the world, these few lines hereafter ensuing. Wherein before I enter into discourse concerning the Art it selfe, giue me leaue cursorily to demonstrate the manifold abuses which are offered vnto the *Pen* by a number of lame *Pen-men*; who as they doe intrude themselues into the societie of Artists, and vsurping the name of *Pen-men*, seeke *detinere Artem in ignorantia*: so by their audacious brags and lying promises, they doe shadow and obscure both the excellency of the *Pen*, and the dignitie of those that are indeed true Professors thereof.

But I purpose not to heape vp all the abuses which they may be conceiued to offer vnto the *Pen*; for that were to lose my selfe in an endlesse discourse: I will onely poine at a few which I hold to be the chiefest, and doe belong principally to matter of Teaching: And those I finde to be foure.

1 *Abuse.* First, you shall obserue that these Botchers, (for they deserue no better title) are for the greatest part of them of no standing, nor euer haue had any ground in the Art, onely haue a certaine confuted kind of writing, voide either of *Lese*, *Dexteritie*, or *Art* it selfe; and yet notwithstanding, they professe, and in their Bills (clapt vpon euery post) promise to performe as much as any whosoeuer. For let any man obserue their Ly-bills, (for so I may very well tearme them) and he shall see how liberall they are in their promises this way, professing to teach any one (not standing vpon the capacitie of the pupill) to write a sufficient hand in a month, and some of them doe say, in a fortnight. Yet, if they did but say so it were tollerable, when as they themselues, (I dare be bold to affirme it) may goe so long to Schoole to learne a little *a*, and yet not attaine to the true touch thereof, being fitter for other Mechanicall occupations (wherein some of them, to my knowledge, haue beene brought vp) then for the Profession of this so curious an Art. Whose *Writings* (if they come to the touchstone of Art, which cannot erre, and to the iudgement of Artists, who seldome are deceiued) will proue lame and Schoole-boy-like. And although in some of their doings, there may seeme in the eyes of the ignorant,

notant, to be a shew of Art: howbeit *tantum absunt à perfectione, quantum ab ignauia animi magnitudo*, They come as farre short of those that haue the least skill, as they doe of Perfection.

Next, whereas we that are *Pen-men* hold this as a Maxime in the Art of *Writing*, To yeeld a reason of euery thing we doe, since *plus apud nos vera ratio valet, quam vulgi opinio*) why, these ignorant Professors are so reasonlesse in all their workes, both of Writing and Teaching, that it is impossible for those whom they teach, or that imitate their doings, to reape any benefit by them. Reason being a second Schoolemaster to bring a man to knowledge in any Art he desires to practise. And certainely (experience tells me that) in the matter of teaching, nothing is more auaileable to a learner, then the demonstration of Reason. So that herein appeares the second abuse, in that these men, being not able to yeeld a reason of that they professe, doe neuertheless (Parrat-like) boast of their skill, and in their papers giue out vaunting speeches, as if so be they were the onely fellowes that would (as we say) beare away the bell: whereas if a man take a view of any of their workes or writings, he shall find therein no appearance either of Truth, Reason, or Art: but on the contrary, such weake stuffe as he would rather imagine it to be the scratching of a Hen, then the worke of a profest *Pen-man*. 2 *Abuse.*

Thirdly, (because I would be briefe) by these their large (yet lying promises) they blind the eyes of the common sort, who are rather affected 3 *Abuse.*

with

with noueltiés and strange deuises, though they appeare in nothing but vaine ostentations, then with the soundnesse of iudgement and exquisitenesse of skill, wherewith Artists are indued. For is it not a common thing amongst them, as well in their residence about this famous Citie (which God knowes swarmes with them) as in their curriculer Progresses ouer all places in this Kingdome; to carry about them, yea and to set in open view the writings and Tables of other men, and affirme they are their owne? I appeale to none but to my owne experience herein; howbeit I am perswaded diuers others (and which I know to) will concurre with me in this truth. And what is this, thinke you, but *deceptio visus*, a blinding of the world with shewes of what they are not?

4 *Abuse.* Lastly, they doe also hinder the commodiue of those that goe as far beyond them in excellency of writing, as the Sunne exceeds the Moone, and that two wayes.

First, by their base and ignominious carriage of themselues in their accustomary cosening, wherby men take occasiõ to conceiue so ill of others of the same Profession, that it is almost impossible for any one (do or mean he neuer so well,) to haue entertainment where they haue beene before.

And secondly, by the multitude of them, which is so great that a man can goe into no corner of this City, but he shall see and heare of a world of squiring Teachers, not one of them almost worthy to carry a *Pen-mans* Iack-horne after him, much lesse to beare the name of a good *Pen-man*.

Diuers

Diuers other abuses there are which these men offer vnto the excellency of the *Pen* and *Pen-men*: But lest I should seeme prolix in so slight an argument, I will here leaue them to the censure of the skilfull, and to those that to their cost haue made tryall of them. Forasmuch as my intent is not so much to detect the folly of those vnworthy Professors (which is palpable enough to euery one) as to entreat of the Art it selfe, reducing all that I entend to speake in commendation thereof, vnto these three heads:

1 *To the Antiquitie*
2 *To the excellencie* } thereof.
3 *To the Diuersitie*

First, for the *Antiquitie* of it. Some affirme that the vse of this Art was found out in the very infancy of the world: and that *Enoch* the seauenth from *Adam* had skill therein: For *Iosephus* credibly reports, that one of the Prophecies which *Enoch* wrote on pillers of stone, remained euen in his time; or at least some ruine thereof. But others doe ascribe those pillers to *Seth*, who liued before *Enoch*. Howsoeuer, if it were but as ancient as the Law, it carries with it age enough. 1 *Part. Ioseph. lib. 1. de Antiquit.*

As for the Art of *Printing*, which came vp but yesterday (in comparison) and is now in much request, that can no way blemish the Art of *Writing*, forasmuch as *Writing* is the President by which *Printing* is effected, and therefore the more worthy. For as we say in Arithmeticke, *Out of the*

greater

greater the lesser is deducted: So that, that whence the deduction is made, is greater then the deduction it selfe.

I shall not neede to argue much vpon the *Antiquitie* of this Art, in regard of the vniuersall knowledge thereof. What worthy and notable acts were heretofore done by any, either Diuine, Morall, Legall or Martiall, but were reserued to after-ages by the meanes of *Writing*? And I wonder how we should euer haue attained to any kind of learning, had we not had the scrols of our learned fore-fathers to peruse and looke into, as also the holy Scriptures, *In quibus sunt omnes thesauri sapientiæ ac scientiæ reconditi*?

2 *Part.* The next thing to be entreated of, is the *Excellency* of the Art of *Writing*, which doth euidently appeare in these two things:

1 *Desiderio.* First, in the earnest desire that all men for the most part haue to attaine vnto it: for those things which are rare and delectable, are sought for and pursued of all men, that's a rule in Nature: Now the Art of *Writing* is a most excellent and delectable Art, and therefore of all men much desired.

2 *Necessitate* Secondly, the Excellency appeares in the Necessitie thereof: for it is necessary for all (you know) to write; and those that cannot, finde what a multitude of inconueniences doe come vpon them for the want of it. And herein (by the way) suffer me not to giue conniuence to that vngrounded opinion of many, who affirme *Writing* to be altogether vnnecessary for Women. If by it any foule businesses are contracted, and thereby much hurt effected; Is this to be laid vpon the Art it selfe? Or is not rather the ill

An answer to a common Obiection.

disposition

disposition of those to be charged herewith, who make it the instrument, whereby they bring to passe euill actions? For not the vse but the abuse of a thing is it which makes it odious. If it were otherwise, why then foule imputations may be laid vpon the best vertues, which of themselues are immaculate.

To be briefe, the Art of *Writing* is so excellent, and of such necessary vse, that none ought to be without some knowledge therein, since the excellency of no Art without it can be made knowne or manifest. And if any Art be commendable in a Woman, (I speake not of their ordinary workes wrought with the needle, wherein they excell) it is this of *Writing*; whereby they, commonly hauing not the best memories (especially concerning matters of moment) may commit many worthy and excellent things to Writing, which may occasionally minister vnto them matter of much solace.

Hereby also, the secrets that are and ought to be, betweene Man and Wife, Friend and Friend, &c. in either of their absences may be confined to their owne priuacy, which (amongst other things) is not the meanest dignitie.

Lastly, the practise of this Art is so necessary for women, and consequently so excellent, that no woman suruiuing her husband, and who hath an estate left her, ought to be without the vse thereof, at lest in some reasonable manner: For thereby shee comes to a certaintie of her estate, with-

out trusting to the reports of such as are vsually imployed to looke into the same: whereas otherwise for want of it, she is subiect to the manifold deceits now vsed in the world, and by that meanes plungeth her selfe into a multitude of inconueniences.

Wherefore their opinion who would barre women from the vse of this excellent facultie of *Writing*, is vtterly lame, and cannot by force of argument be maintained.

And although the *Excellency* of this Art (to speake of the curiosity thereof) be somewhat shadowed by the dulnesse of some Mechanicall spirits, who seldome haue skill in any thing out of their own element, that thinke *Writing* to be onely a hand-labour, and so they can write to keepe a dirtie shop booke, they care for no more; neuer esteeming the commendable manner of faire & orderly *Writing*, which ought in all businesse to be obserued, as well in keeping of Bookes for Merchants & others, as in all kind of Engrosments, appertaining to the Law, &c: Yet notwithstanding the splendor & grace of *Writing* shines most excellently in the scrols of skilful Artists, as in the writing of some may appeare to them that haue insight.

And what should I say of the Excellency of this Art? Is it not one of the hands by which not only this, but all other cõmon-wealths are vpholden? The key which opens a passage to the descrying and finding out of innumerable treasures? The handmaid to memory? The Register and Recorder of all Arts? And the very mouth whereby a man familiarly conferreth with

his

his friend, though the distance of thousands of miles be berwixt them?

Infinite other things might be spoken concerning the Excellency of this Art of *Writing*; and where I faile in the setting forth thereof, assist me with your manifold imaginations.

The third and last thing to be discussed of in commendation of this Art, is the *Diuersitie* thereof. I meane the diuers kinds of *hands* which are now vsed among vs. For although they all goe vnder the name of writing; yet they are to be distinguished according to the diuersitie of them. Howbeit my purpose is not to clog my discourse with an enumeration of euery idle hand that may be written: for that were absurd, and out of the element of a *Pen-man*. I will only entreat of those which are the principall; and wherein the most Art, the greatest curiositie, and the rarest dexteritie of the Artist is to be manifested: and they are these which follow, *vis.* 3 *Part.*

1 *Secretary.*
2 *Bastard-Secretary, or Text.*
3 *Roman.*
4 *Italian.*
5 *Court.*
6 *Chancery.*

Of each of which I will briefly speake somewhat, onely by way of di-

 stinctio

ſtinction, in regard I would not willingly weary the Reader with ſuperfluous circumſtances, or detaine him long from that which followeth.

1 *Secretary.* For the firſt, *viz*: the *Secretary*, which is ſo tearmed (as I conceiue) partly becauſe it is the Secretaries common hand; and partly alſo, becauſe it is the onely vſuall hand of *England*, for diſpatching of all manner of buſineſſes for the moſt part whatſoeuer.

I might adde hereunto the ſuper-excellency of this hand, in reſpect of any other hand; for that the very denomination thereof, imports ſome things in it that are not eaſily to be found out. And true it is, that whoſoeuer doth practiſe it (according to the true nature of it) ſhall perceiue therein many ſecret and ſubtill paſſages of the hand, which few, but thoſe that haue bin well grounded therein by a true Artiſt, are able to comprehend; but I affect breuity.

Secretarius à ſecretis.

To ſpeake of the kindes of *Secretary*, is (in theſe dayes) no eaſie matter: for ſome haue deuiſed many, and thoſe ſo ſtrange and diſguiſed; that there is hardly any true ſtraine of a right Secretary in them. For mine owne part, I make diſtinction betwixt the *Sett*, *Facill*, and *Faſt hands*, of which three I ſhall (God willing) by and by propoſe ſome few examples.

2 *Baſtard ſecretary.* The next is *Baſtard-Secretary*, and ſo named by the beſt, becauſe it is gotten of the Secretary, as thoſe that haue any skill may perceiue. This is a Hand not ſo vſuall as the former; yet of great validitie, and for diuers purpoſes exceeding graceful; as for Engroſſements, Epitaphs for Tombes,

Titles

Titles of Bookes, and many other vses, which would be too tedious for me here to recite.

The third is *Roman*, which hath his denomination from the place where (it seemes) it was first written, viz: *Rome*. A hand of great account, and of much vse in this Realme, especially in the Vniuersities: and it is conceiued to be the easiest hand that is written with *Pen*, and to be taught in the shortest time: Therefore it is vsually taught to women, for as much as they (hauing not the patience to take any great paines, besides phantasticall and humorsome) must be taught that which they may instantly learne? otherwise they are vncertaine of their proceedings, because their minds are (vpon light occasion) easily drawne from the first resolution. 3 *Roman.*

The fourth is *Italian*, a *hand* in nature not much different from *Roman*, but in manner and forme, of much incongruitie thereunto. This is a *hand* which of late is growne very vsuall, and is much affected by diuers; for indeed, it is a most excellent and curious *hand*, and to be written with singular command of hand; else it will appeare but very ragged and vile; and if the Pen be taken off in coniunction of the letters, it is neither approueable, nor Pen-man-like, but meere botching, which is detestable. 4 *Italian.*

The fift is *Court-hand*; so called, for that it is of great vse in those two famous Courts of the *Kings Bench*, and *Common Pleas*. It is a *hand* somewhat difficult to write well, and he that continually writes it, may happily come to perfection in that; but for other hands (if he could write ne- 5 *Court.*

ne-

uer so many) let him neuer looke to write any of them well: for it is able to marre them all. I am not reasonlesse in this opinion, but able (vnto any that please to produce the cause.

6 *Chancery.* The last is *Chancery*, which euery man knowes to be written no where but in the *High Court of Chancery*, and in other Offices which haue reference thereunto. I am of opinion, that this hand being well written, is far more gracefull then the *Court*, and equally difficult. It hath a kinde of mixture of the *Court* and *Bastard-Secretary* in it, which any man of iudgement may easily perceiue.

There are two kinds hereof, the *Sett* and *Fast*; the difference betweene them is not [illegible], as they that are Clerks well know.

Thus much, or rather thus little, I thought good to deliuer, touching the *Antiquitie*, *Excellency*, and *Diuersitie* of the Art of *Writing*.

Now here shall follow certaine peeces and Examples of the sixe seuerall heads before mentioned; wherein I haue endeuoured to fit my selfe with extraordinary matter for Coppies; holding it an absurd thing in a good *Pen-man* to make choice of such fustian stuffe, as many doe, onely to set out their Coppies, and make the writing to seeme gracefull to the eye. Also I haue laboured to be so perspicuous in the nature of euery hand, as that the meanest may imitate me, and reape some benefit by me.

Thus

Thus from the gate or entrance, I haue brought you into the house; where you haue seen sundry ornaments and peeces of Art: and now (if you be not weary) goe with me into one roome more, and there take a view of the implements and tooles, with which you must worke, if you meane to proue a Pen-man; and learne how you are to vse and handle them. But before we enter, steppe aside with me, and I will giue you notice of certaine obseruations, which are necessary to be knowne of euery one that will practise this Art.

Obseruations for Writing.

EVery one that intends either to be a Teacher of others, or a Practitioner for himselfe; ought to know that in the Art of Letters, or Writing, three things are to be obserued, *viz.*

1 *Ratio.*
2 *Modus.*
3 *Species.*

The former whereof, which is Reason, hath reference to the vnderstanding, and doth most of all concerne the speculatiue part of *Writing.* *Generally.*

The two latter, *viz.* the *manner* and *shape* (which of euery letter

through-

throughout the Alphabet is to be obſerued) doth conſiſt in the carriage of the *hand*; and theſe are the practique parts of *Writing*.

Particularly. 1 *Ratio.* First, the *Reason* of euery letter muſt be found out; as why ſuch a letter being made thus and thus, ſeemes more gracefull then being made ſo and ſo. Likewiſe, as for euery letter, and the leaſt touch with the Pen, a reaſon muſt be giuen: So it is in the coniunction, knitting or ioyning together of the letters; Why the Pen muſt here be taken off, and why there not taken off? why the nature of this letter will admit the taking off of the Pen; and why the nature of that letter doth require the contrary. Theſe things muſt be reſolued to the learner, by Reaſon; elſe how ſhall he vnderſtand to write well?

2 *Modus.* Next, the *manner* of making euery letter muſt be knowne too. For if a Scholer be taught to frame his letters after an ill, corrupt, and contrary way: It cannot be that he ſhould euer write well. And although perchance ſome doe write ſufficient and ſeruiceable hands, that neuer were taught the true way of framing their Characters: Yet notwithſtanding what they doe, they (as we ſay) doe by roate, not vnderſtanding, or conceiuing how to write. For I dare vndertake, that ſuch as haue not beene rightly grounded herein, are neuer able to know or iudge of the goodneſſe or badneſſe of a letter. Therefore it were to be wiſhed, that men would refraine from theſe Botchers that ſpoyle ſo many, & bring vp ſuch a multitude of Scriblers, not fit for any mans imployment: and that they

would

would (not standing vpon the pay, as many ignorant persons do) put their youth to such as are able to teach, and are knowne to be good Pen-men.

Lastly, as the *reason* and the *manner* of euery Letter is to be obserued: so the *shape* (which giueth *life* and *spirit* to *Writing*) must be knowne also: for therein the very substance of *Writing* consisteth. 3 *Species.*

Herein a man ought to be very wary and circumspect, concerning the carriage of his Pen: that is, that he doe not presse vpon that part of the letter which requires a fauourable touch; nor be sparing in that part which requires the contrary: for in either the *spirit* of the letter is dulled and made blockish, so that the *shape* cannot then be good.

It shall not be amisse for the diligent Practitioner, more specially to obserue these few briefe Rules concerning Writing, viz.

1 FIrst, to size his *Writing*, that is, to make the depth and fulnesse proportionable.

2 Then to obserue the *whites*, for that's a maine matter.

3 Lastly, to keepe an equall distance, as well betweene letter and letter, as betweene word and word.

These three being the chiefest things wherein the grace of *Writing* consisteth.

In the next place I hold it necessary to set downe certaine rules for the making & holding of the *Pen*, with other things thereunto appertaining.

Obseruations or rules for the making of the Pen.

AFter you haue gotten you a good Pen-knife well edg'd & smooth'd vpon a hoane, and good second quils, either of Goose or Rauen, scraped with the backe of your knife, begin to make your Pen thus:

1 First, holding your quill the right side vpwards, cut off aboue the third part of it flat along to the end.

2 And turning it on the backe side, cut off the very end of it assloape; which being done, it will be forked.

3 Then, holding it still on the backe, make a little cut in the very midst of the quill.

4 When you haue done so, take the end of your knife if it haue a pegg, or else another quill, and make a slit vp suddenly, euen in the cut you gaue before.

5 Which being done, turne your quill on the right side againe, and begin to cut a little thought aboue the slit, on that side which is next your left hand, and so continue cutting by degrees, till you thinke you haue sufficiently cut that side. But herein you must be very wary you cut not off too much of the slit; for then your Pen will be too hard, and if you leaue too much also, it will be ouer-soft.

A Caueat.

6 Then

6 Then euen against the place you beganne to cut the first side, cut the other likewise, till you haue made them both of an equall thinnesse: and then trying it by lifting vp the slit vpon the naile of your thumbe, you shall see whether it be too soft or too hard: if either, bring it to a meane by adding more slit to it, if you see it to be too hard; or by taking some away, if you perceiue it to be too soft.

Lastly, herein lies the difficultie, *vis.* in the nibbing of the Pen: wherein I obserue this rule, that placing it on the naile of my thumbe, or middle finger, I hold my knife somewhat sloaping, and cut the end of the nibbe, not quite off, but before my knife come off, I turne him downe-right, and so cut the nibbe cleane away, on both sides alike; contrary to that old vulgar rule, *Dextra pars penna, &c.* Now if my Pen be to write full, I cut off so much the more of the nibbe; if small, so much the lesse.

Note that if your quill (as many haue) haue teeth, you are to pare it on the backe thinly, to take them away.

Obserue that the nibbing of the Pen must bee done at once, though it seeme two seueral cuts, otherwise it will not write currantly.

Obseruations for the holding of the Pen.

1 HOlding your Pen betweene your thumbe, your fore-finger, and your middle-finger: *vis.* with the top of your thumbe, the bottome or lower part of your fore-finger, and the top or vpper part of your middle-finger.

2 And let your other two fingers ioyne to the rest a little thought within them; suffering none of your fingers with which you hold the Pen, to touch paper: for that is the proper office of the fourth and little fingers,

which the ſtrength of the others is maintained.

3 Lastly, for the right vſage of the Pen, when you can hold it; you ſhall obſerue, that it ought to be held directly vpon the full: for that is moſt proper, being that the nib of the Pen muſt be cut euen, otherwiſe it is ſubiect to ſpatter. Howbeit, I deny not, but in the fetching of any compaſſe, it muſt be held a little inclining to the left ſide: for ſo the Pen will giue full where it ſhould, and ſmall alſo where it is required.

A Caueat. Note, that the Pen muſt be held very gently in the hand, without griping, becauſe of two inconueniences which come thereby.

1 The one is, that the command of hand (which otherwiſe by the eaſie holding thereof is to be attained) is hereby vtterly loſt.

2 The other is, that by this griping, or hard holding of the Pen, a man is kept from a ſpeedy diſpatch of that he goes about to write: both which are maine enemies to Clerke-like writing.

M. B. *his priuate opinion concerning Pen-manſhip.*

1 FIrſt, it is a moſt abſurd and hatefull qualitie, to vſe any manner of botching in the Art of *Writing*; yea, though it be in a letter of the greateſt vncertaintie.

2 Againe, I am of opinion, that although in the writing of ſome *Hands*, (as

(as of the *Sett Secretary* and ſome other) it be now and then tollerable to take off the Pen in coniunction of the letters, for the more formall writing thereof: yet that in the *Facill*, but eſpecially, in the *Faſt Secretary*, it is ſo iniurious to the perfection of Clerke-like writing, that I cannot free him that vſeth it, from the imputation of a meere Botcher.

3 The like opinion doe I retaine of thoſe, who muſt write euery thing that is to be performed in any reaſonable faſhion, and with credit, with or by a *line*: for therein they ſhew themſelues rather Carpenters then Writers, and cannot (in the iudgement of Artiſts) be rightly termed good *Pen-men*.

4 Alſo (in my iudgement) he cannot be reputed a good *Pen-man* that is not able vpon an inſtant, with any *Pen*, *Inke*, or *Paper*, and in the preſence of whomſoeuer, to manifeſt ſome skill: Being that the rare & abſolute qualitie of the Pen, conſiſteth not in the painting, pricking forth, and tedious writings of ſix lines priuately in a mans Study, with the beſt implements: but a ſweet command of hand, and a certaine conceiued preſumption.

5 Laſtly, to vſe any ſtrange, borrowed, or inforc'd tricks and knots, in or about writing, other then with the celerity of the hand are to be performed, is rather to ſet an inglorious gloſſe vpon a ſimple peece of worke, then to giue a comely luſtre to a perfect patterne; they being as vnnaturall to *Writing*, as a ſurfet is to a temperate mans body.

FINIS.

RVLES MADE BY E.B. FOR Children to write by.

TO make common Inke of wine take a quart,
Two ounces of Gumme, let that be a part,
Fine ounces of Gals, of Copres take three,
Long stamping doth make it the better to be.
If wine you do want, raine water is best,
And then as much stuffe as aboue at the least.
If Inke be too thicke, put vinegar in:
For water doth make the colour more dim.

To make Inke in hast.

In hast, for a shift when ye haue great need,
Take wooll, or woollen to stand you in steed.
Which burnt in the fire, the powder beat small,
With vineger or water make Inke withall.

To keepe Inke long.

If Inke ye desire to keepe long in store,
Put bay salt therein, and it will not hore.

To make speciall black Inke.

If that common Inke be not to your mind,
Some lampblacke thereto with gumme water grind:
Each painter can tell how it should be done,
The cleaner out of your pen it will runne;
The same to be put in horne or in lead,
No cotton at all, when long it hath staid,
The bottome will thicke, put more common Inke,
And it will be good, well stirred, as I thinke.

To make Stanch graine.

Make Stanch graine of Allume beaten full small,
And twice as much Rosin beaten withall:
With that in a faire clout knit very thinne,
Rub paper or parchment before ye beginne.

To choose your quill.

Take quill of a goose, that is somewhat round,
The third or fourth in wing be found:
And if sometime of those ye do want,
Take pinion as next, when Rauens quill is scant,
And riue it iust in the backe as may be,
For ragged your slit else shall you see,
Amid the slip that runs vp the quill,
Were it of Gander, ye do it not spill.
The feather shaue off, the quill do not pare,
The stronger your pen in hand you may care.

To make your pen.

Make clift without teeth, your pen good and hard:
Thinner, and shorter, [illegible] right hand regard.

The clift ſomewhat long, the neb ſomewhat ſhort,
Then take it in hand in moſt comely ſort.

To hold your pen.

Your thombe on your pen as higheſt beſtow,
The forefinger next, the middle below:
And holding it thus in moſt comely guiſe,
Your body vpright, ſtoope not with your head,
Your breaſt from the boord if that you be wiſe,
Leſt that you take hurt when ye haue well fed.

To chuſe a good pen-knife.

Your pen knife as ſtay in left hand let reſt,
The mettall too ſoft nor too hard is beſt:
Too ſharpe it may be, and ſo cut too faſt,
If it be too dull, a ſhrewd turne for haſt:
For whetſtone hard touch, that is very good,
Slate or ſhoe ſole is not ill, but good.

How to ſit writing.

Your body vpright, ſtoope not with your head:
Your breaſt from the bood when you haue well fed.
Inke alwaies good ſtore on right hand to ſtand,
Browne paper for great haſt, or elſe boxe with ſand:
Dip pen, and ſhake pen, and touch pen for haire;
Waxe, quils and pen-knife ſee alwaies ye beare.
Who that his paper doth blurre or elſe blot,
Yeelds me a ſlouen, it fals him by lot.
In learning, full ſlow write at the beginning,
For great is your loſſe, and ſmall is your winning,
If at the firſt time an ill touch ye catch:
Vſe onely is cauſe of ſpeedy diſpatch.

How to write faire.

To write very faire, your pen let be new,
Diſh, daſh, long taile ſlie, falſe writing eſchew:
Neatly and cleanly your hand for to frame,
Strong ſtalked pen, is beſt of a rauen.
And comely to write, and giue a good grace,
Leaue betweene each word a ſmall letters ſpace.
That faire and ſeemely your hand may be read,
Keepe euen your letters at foote and at head,
With diſtance alike betweene letter and letter,
One out of others ſhewes much the better.

Scholler to learne, it may do you pleaſure,
To rule him two lines iuſt of a meaſure:
Thoſe two lines betweene to write very iuſt,
Not aboue or below write that he muſt:
The ſame to be done is beſt with blacke lead,
Which written betweene is cleanſed with bread.
Your pen from your booke but ſeldome remoue,
To follow ſtrange hand, with dry pen firſt proue:
Many one writeth, the Example lying by,
Who ſo on the ſame doth neuer let eye:
But he that will learne with ſpeed for to write,
To marke his example muſt haue his delight,

Leaue

To marke his examples

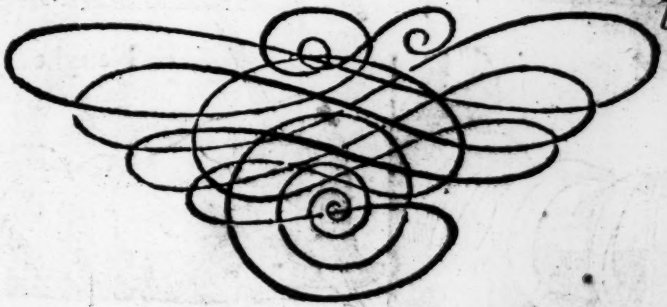
Letter and tittle to make as the ſame,
And ſo ſhall the ſcholler be voide of all blame.

Neceſſarie things belonging to writing.

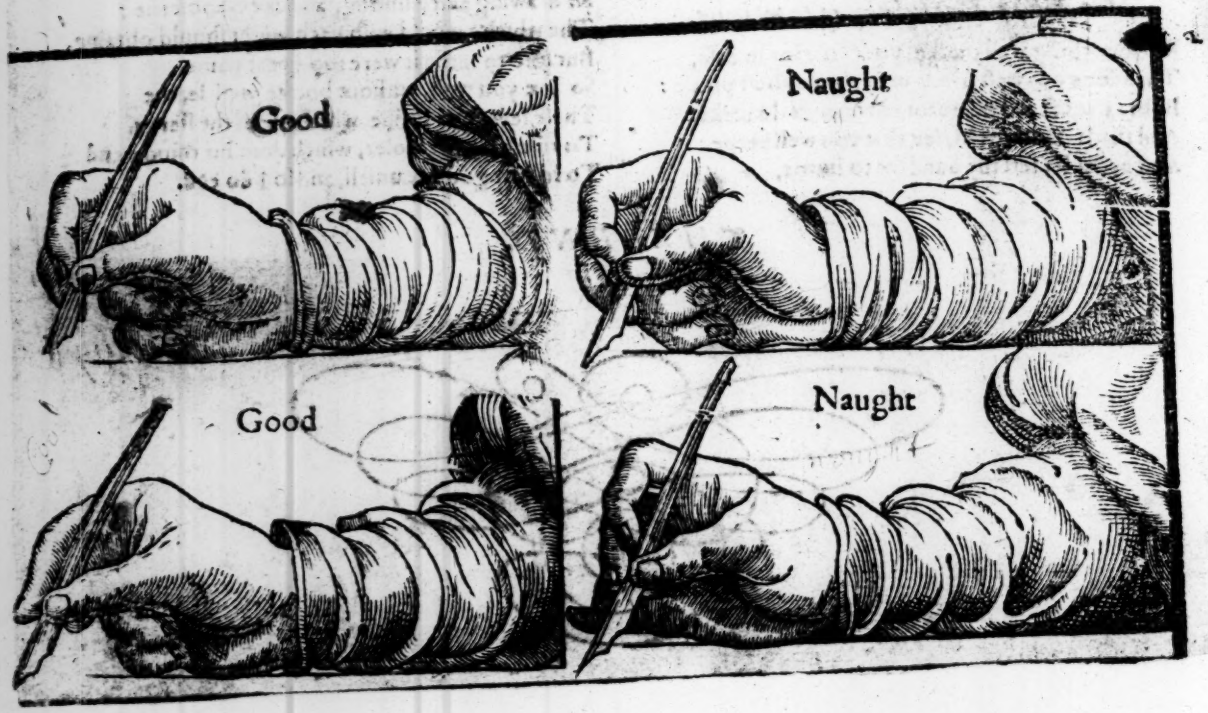
And one thing well marke, your ſelfe for to eaſe,
That none but beſt hands may alwaies beſt pleaſe:
Both farre off and neare for faire hands do ſeeke,
And them ſafe as gold, ſee that you well keepe:
And neuer let reſt thy hand for to frame,
Vntill that thou write as faire as the ſame.
To writing belongs good things two or three,
As drawing and painting, and eke Geometrie:
The which I would wiſh each wight ſhould obtaine,
But ſure to ſome it were too great paine.
So fare you well, without booke well learne
Theſe few rules I giue, which are as the ſtarre,
To rule a good ſcholer, which doth his mind bend
To follow good counſell, and ſo I do end.

THE END.

Ignatius Licard
for writeing foe



HOW YOV OVGHT TO HOLD
your penne.



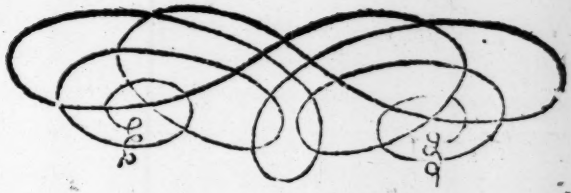
The texte hande.

A simple man of smale vndestanding that feareth God is better then one that hathe muche wisedome and transgresseth the lawe of thy moste heighest

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii.
Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr
Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx.
Yy Zz Ee.

Betweene science and Ignorance this is the difference
the one warely foreseeth euery confusion, the other euen
naturally worketh confusion bothe to ye worke & worker.

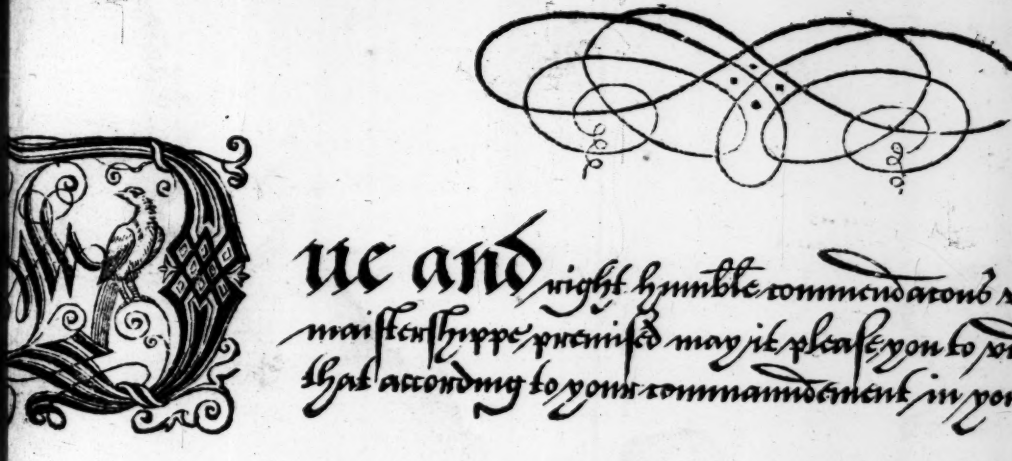
Aa aa bb bb cc dd ee ee ff ff gg gg hh hh ii ii kk kk ll ll mm mm
nn nn oo oo pp pp qq qq rr rr ss ss tt tt uu uu ww ww xx yy zz zz



ondemne no man before thou haue tryed out the matter: and when thou hast made inquisition, then resourme righteously. geue no senten-ce before thou hast hearde the cause: but first let men tell our their tales:

---

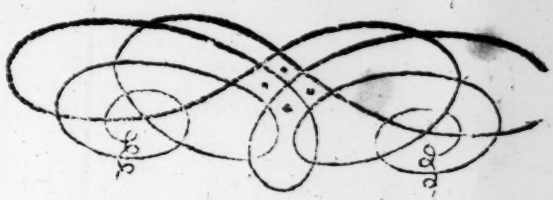
a b c d e f ſſ g h i k l m n o p q r ſ s ß t tt u v w.
x y z & ſt & ſt ſp ſh ſh ſh



ue and right humble commendacoun vnto your good maistershippe premised may it please you to vnderstande that according to your commandement in your letter sent

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz Et Ꝛ.

zodiens
canbyname

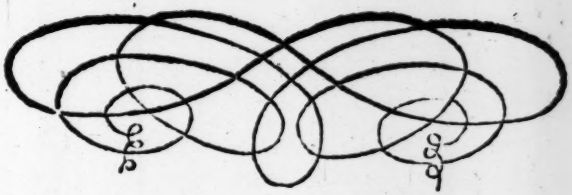


DVCATION and dissipline formetn goods manners and men commonly sauowre most of those thinges wch in youthe they learned. a man exercised in vertue &c

a b c d e f g h i k l m n o p q r s t
u v x y z & et.

C

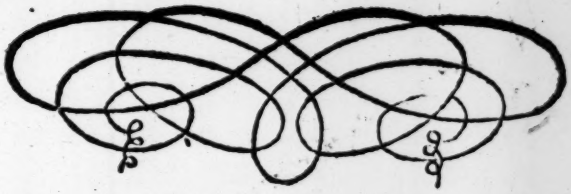
Zachius Conby



olowe not thy lustes, but torne the from thine
owne will, for yf thou giue thy sowle her desire it
shall make thine enemyes to laugh the to scorne in thy misery

---

A a b c d e f g h i k l m n o p q r s ſ ſs st t u x y z



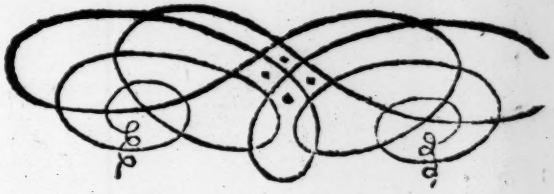
OE NOT from the doctrine of the elders, for they haue learned it of their fathers, for of them thou shalt learne vnder=standing that thou maiest make answer in tyme of nede

---

a b c d e f ff g h i k l m n o p q r ſ s ß t tt u v w.
x y z z & ct & ct ſp ſh ſp ſh

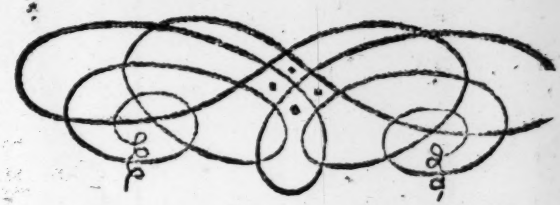
0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0
0 0 0
0 0

0 0 0 4 0 0
0 0 1 0 0
0 0 0 1
0 0 0 1
0 0
0



Che that ondereth hym selfe well in poueryte howmuche ye howmuche more shall he behane hym selfe in riches. & who so vnhonestly in riches, howmuch more in poueryte.

A a a b b c c d d e e e f f g g h h i i j k k l l m m n n o o p p q q r r s s t t u u w w x y z & V.



Yf thou hane vnderstanding shape thy neighbourne an answer, yf not, laye thine hande on thie mouthe, lest thou be trapped in an vndiscrete worde, & so confounded.

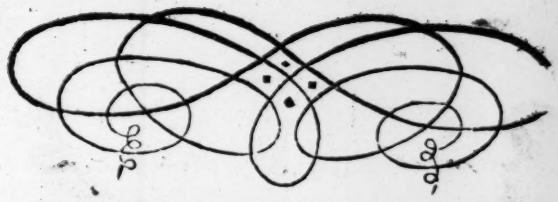
Aa a Bb b Cc c Dd d Ee e Ff f Gg g Hh h Ii i Ii i Kk k Ll l Mm m.
Nn n Oo o Pp p Qq q Rr r Ss s Tt t Vv v Uu u Ww w Xx x Yy y Zz z.

Keepe no company with wine bibbers and riotus
eaters of flesh, for sinne shall come to poverti & he
that is gene to mutche slepe shall goe wt a ragged cote.

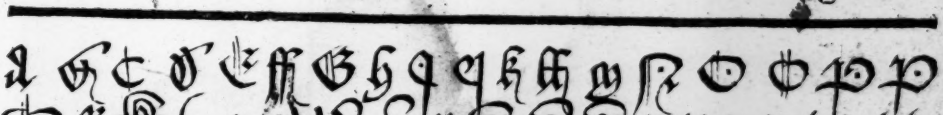
Aa a bb c cc dd e ee ff f gg h hh i ii kk k ll m m.
n nn o oo p p q q rr r ss t tt v u w w xx y z z v /

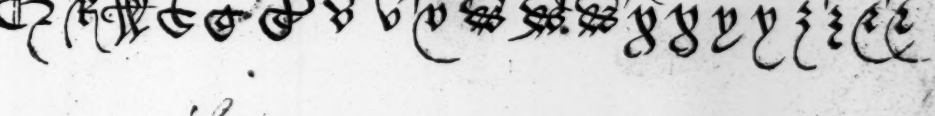
Sett not thym that weepe be withoute consolation & comforte, but mourne with suche as mourne; let it not greue the to visite the sicke, and thou shalt be beloued.

A a b b c c d d e e f f g g h h i i k k l l m m n n o o p p q q r r s s t t v v w w x x y y z z.



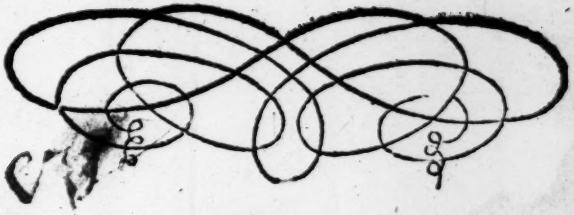
Multi, nec ipi consilege sibi nozunt, nec secto consilentem audiunt. Ces cum ui periculio omnt, et dampno, tunc demum sapere incipiunt, et suam dampnatione odiozdicam vt dicat





K A

Soli omnes sibi hesse, qui soli omnium alios videntur
velle posse, sibi autem consulunt, nec non sunt stulti
omnes, qui blandis dicunt, aut benigne os suum velle se



Lone sparke is made a greate fire (and of one deceitefull man is blood increased) and an vngodlye manlayth waite for blood, for he enmeth good to ill &c

---

Amm a a bmm b b cmm c c dmm d d emm e e fmm f f gmm g g hmm h h imm i ii kmm k k lmm ll lmm mm n nn omm o oo

Petrus Hampton et Heriens Hampton filius eius per [illegible]
Georgium Knight et filium eius de [illegible] cum [illegible] in [illegible] Hampton et
Wimbrton East Comerton et West Comerton ut ius et hereditatem eidem et m.

Emulacon of vertue

in great men is honourable but of Greatnesse
verie daungerous; for many times it breaketh
the nerke of one or both the Rivalls: But it
never faileth of hindering their duetie and
faithfull service to their Prince & Countrey.

Æmulatio et proximi exercitus gloria, segnitiem repulerat

Y Grace is Art into mans braine infused
By Art the hand earth severall worke is tought
By Patience comes the end of all things wished
Without these three is no perfection wrought
Be Patient thou y seekest to men-mans skill
By Grace & Art so maist thou have ye ioie ye will

Gratia, arte, ac patientia omnia perficiuntur

Mount not vp to the place of Dono. least
thou be made to come downe againe with shame;
for prosperitie is more dangerous then adver=
sitie and more perish on the right hand of
worldly pleasure than the hand of lowe degree

Billingsley

Qui se exaltat humiliabitur

Inuident homines maxime paribus

aut inferioribus, tum se rebus sentiunt, illos autem dolent eos assi

sed etiam superioribus invidant saepe vehementer, et eo magis, si indo

mantius se iactant, aequabilitatem communis iuris praestantia dig

nitatis aut fortunae sua transeunt. In iniquitas invidia imberillis

esse debet: nihilque homini est antimendum: quam invidia: ne

nihil innocenti suscepta in te aliam optandum, quam aequum iudicium

a. uel

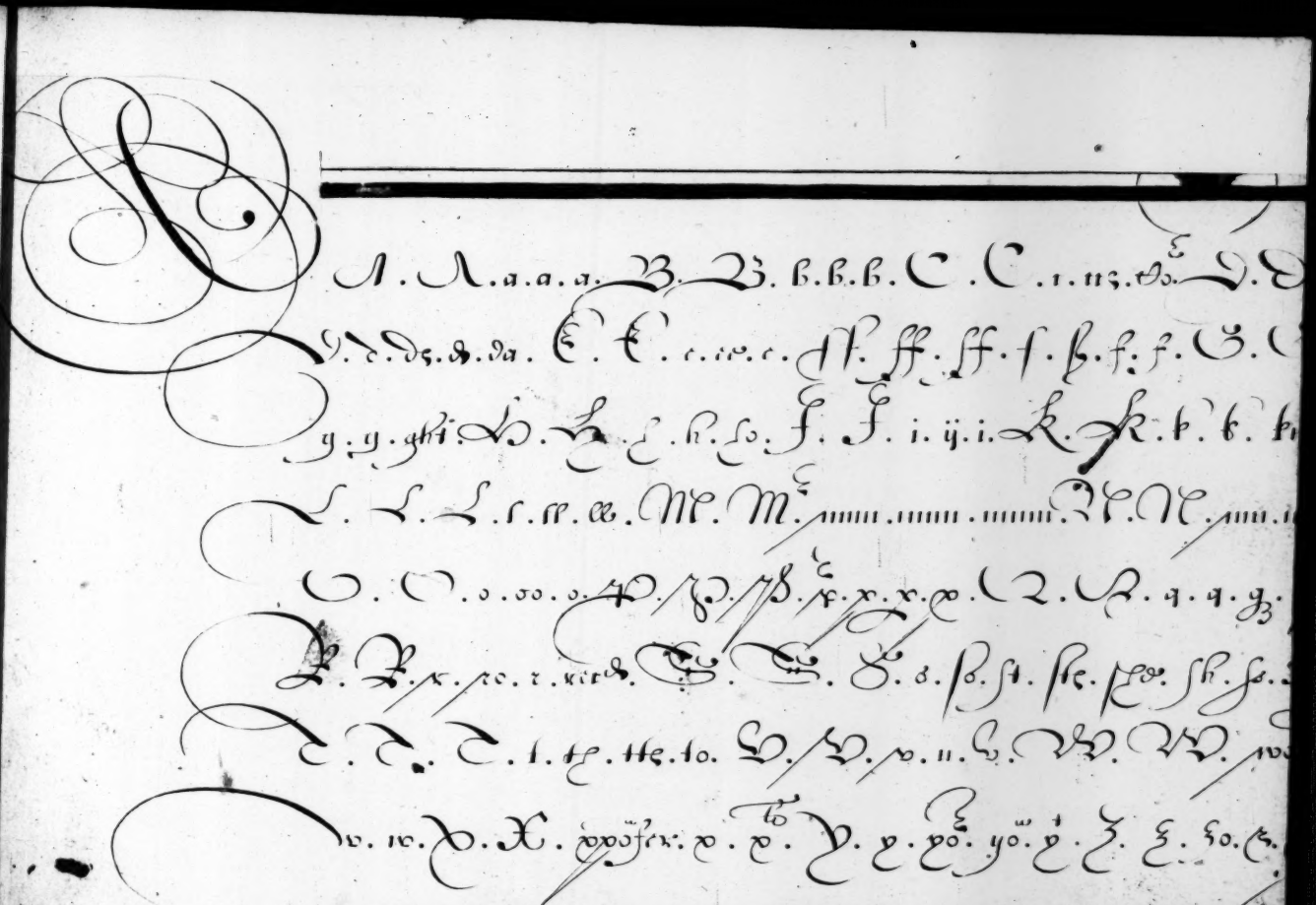
Billingsley.

Inuidia, e virtute parta, gloria, non inuidia putanda est

8

Conditionem miseram administrandarum rerum et provinciarum: in quibus diligentia plena simulatum est negligentia vitupeationum: ubi severitas periculosa est libertatis ingrata seruo insidiosus assentatio premitiosa. Iuno omnium familiarum multorum animus iratus iucundis ornatus blanditis apertas venientes praetores experiant praesentibus insaviunt abeuntes desernunt Sunt quibus sentiunt: dum si optimum est invidiae metu non audent

Virtut



We are naturallie given notwithstanding o great vn-
worthines to have a marvellous good conceit of o selues
& of o actions: And is so be we can preiue any thing in
o selues to be never so little commendable or praiseworthie;
we presentlie stand on tornes, till we heir a Trumpett we
have blowne forth & proclaimed y worthines of o desertes.

Pœnam arrogantiæ effugit nemo suæ

Such men as are comodious to none but onlie to themselues are not worthie to be honoured or esteemed in a Common wealth. For we are not borne for our selues but for our Countrey; and we ought not by any meanes to preferre our owne priuate before the publique good, nor our particular profitt before the generall commoditie of our Countrey.

Non nobis solum nati sumus.

Rashness is obnoxious to all manner of ambush & surprise: it is soft at hand, but tires at length: and having vented the first furie, dies like a wave that hath lost her sting. Therefore men must looke before they leape, & consider ye danger before they runne into it; least as they goe on wth small feed, they come off wth lesse gaine.

Peccat pœna necessario qui festinat

the tongue & the hands are principall members. where none shew & reason have not the
ruling of them. The tongue is allreaies ye more readie: but ye hands in this is
ye more dangerous: that what is spoken maie be helped, by supposition of mis=
taking, or disagreement in the reporters, or death: whereas that of ye hands
appeareth to posteritie, surviveth ye speaker & hearers, & remaineth ad a thousand
wits

Vox audita perit, sed litera scripta manebit

a. a. b. b. c. ꝯ. d. d. e. ee. f. f. g. gg. h. hh. i. ij. k. k. l. ll. mm. mmm.
a a b c
o. oo. p. pp. q. q. r. rr. s. ſſ. ſ. ſſ. ſſ. t. th. v. u. w. w. x. x. y. yy. z. ſz
d

The report of yor good fortune coming to my knowledge, I
could not but take occasion thereby to praise God & reioyce
wth yo^u therein; hoping y^t as my affection moveth mee to
write: so it will. please yo^u to accept ye same in good p^te
& remember to continue mee in ye number of there poore
well wishers, y^t am better willing then able to doe yo^u service

So bids farewell to bee ever your owne

Martin Billingsley

A. a. B. b. C. c. D. d. E. e.

F. f. G. g. H. h. I. i j. K. k.

L. l. M. m. N. n. O. o. P. p.

Q. q. R. r. S. s. T. t. U. u.

V. v. W. w. X. x. Y. y. Z. z. &c.

Vsl that thine Hand findeth to doe.
doe it quicklie: for there is neither
Art. Invention. Knowledge. nor
wisedome in ye Graue whither ye
A.abcdefghiklmnopqrstvwxy

A a a a a b b b b c c c d d d d e e e e f f f ff g g g

g g g h h h h h i i i ü k k k k l ll l l m m m m m n

n n n n o ö oo o p p p p q q q q r r r r s st t ß

t t t tt tt v v v u u u w w w v x x x y yo y z z G

A B C D E F G H I K L M

N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

When an humour is strong and predominant, it not onlie converteth his proper nutriment, but euen that which is apt for contrarie humours, into it owne nature and qualitie. Of like force is a strong and wilfull Desire, in the minde of man: For it nott onlie feeds vpon agreeable motions, but makes euen these reasons, which are strongest against it, to be most for it.

Æger animus, falsa pro veris videt.

Quemadmodum scalarum gradus si alios tollas alios incidas non nullos male hærentes relinquas, ruinæ periculum struas, non ascensum præbes: Sic tot malis, tum victum tum fractum studium scribendi, quid dignum auribus, aut probabile potest afferre.

Scribendi studium, tranquillum, pest urbatum sit

A. a. a. a. a. b. b. b. b. c. c. c. c. d. d. d. d. e. e. e. e. f. f. f. f.

g. g. g. g. h. h. i. i. i. j. k. k. k. k. l. l. l. l. m. m m m m.

n. n. n. n. o. o. oo. o. p. pp. pro. q. q. q. r. ro. rr. s. ss. s. s. s.

t. tt. th. t. v. u. v. u. w. w. w. x. x. x. y. y. y. z. z. z. &.

A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. K. L. M. M.

N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. V. W. X. Y. Z.

Come auuiene d'un fiume che mentre corre entiero
et con tutta l'acqua in un letto fa con grandissimo
impeto il suo corso et spauenta le città benche
fortissime murate ma se si diuide in più parti.
per doue la forza Cè passato à guazzo Ogni piano
Così appunto le forze d'un Esercito. &c.

Bon heureux

on heureux est l'homme qui trouve sapience
et qui abonde en prudence. Meilleur est l'a
quisition d'icelle que ses marchandises
et d'argent : car ses fruits sont les premiers
et tresseurs. A.a.b.c.d.e.f.g.h.i.j.k.l.m.n.o.p.
q.r.s.t.u.v.x.y.z.&.&c.

He that propounds a matter to his inward friend would be advised. He that imparts a resolved business would have it concealed. In the first case the Counsellor must unlocke his heart: in the other he must seale upp his lippes. For it is dangerous to be of a great mans Counsaile and not to keepe it.

Gran silentio e gran parte a sostenerlo

Petroburo dei gratia Anglie Francie ffrancie & hibnie
ffidei defensor &c. Vir' london dilctis. Tibi
pripiimus qd. Matthew Phillipp Johnson Armigerum qua
qd. eum hertfordiam nob in Cancellaria Nrra in &c.

A. a. a. B. b. b. C. c. c. D. d. d. E. e. e. ff. f. f.
G. g. g. h. h. h. I. i. i. K. k. k. l. ll. l. m. m. mm.
N. n. n. O. o. oo. P. p. pp. Q. q. q. R. r. r. S. s. ſſ. T. t.
t. ſt. U. u. u. u. u. W. W. X. x. Y. y. Z. z. z. &.

Α. α. α. Β. β. β. Γ. γ. γ. Δ. δ. δ.

Ε. ε. ε. Ζ. ζ. ζ. Η. η. η. Θ. θ. θ.

Ι. ι. ι. Κ. κ. κ. Λ. λ. λ. Μ. μ. μ.

Ν. ν. ν. Ξ. ξ. ξ. Ο. ο. ο. Π. π. π.

Ρ. ρ. ρ. Σ. σ. ς. ς. ς. Τ. τ. τ. Υ. υ. υ.

Φ. φ. φ. Χ. χ. χ. χ. Ψ. ψ. ψ. Ω. ω. ω. ω.

Οὕτω γὰρ ἠγάπησεν ὁ θεὸς τὸν κόσμον, ὥστε τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ τὸν μονογενῆ ἔδωκεν, ἵνα πᾶς ὁ πιστεύων εἰς αὐτὸν μὴ ἀπόληται, ἀλλ' ἔχῃ ζωὴν αἰώνιον.

א.ב.ג.ד.ה.ו.ז.ח.ט.י.כ.ך.ל.מ.נ.

ס.ע.פ.צ.ף.צ.ן.ק.ר.ש.ש.ת.

יהוה לא גבה לבי ולא רמו עיני ולא הלכתי

בגדלות ובנפלאות ממני: אם לא שויתי

ודוממתי נפשי כגמל עלי אמו כגמל עלי נפשי: